

What is claimed is:

1. An electronic file management server connected to a user terminal, and a printing apparatus, via a network, comprising:
 - a receiving unit, which receives a printing request of an
 - 5 electronic file, via said network;
 - an identification pattern generating unit, which generates identification patterns, including information concerning a storing place of the electronic file, based on the received printing request of the electronic file; and
 - 10 a sending unit, which sends back said identification pattern to the user terminal, via said network.
2. The electronic file management server according to claim 1, wherein said identification pattern generating unit further includes in the identification pattern, information concerning a printing condition
- 15 of the electronic file.
3. The electronic file management server according to claim 1, wherein said identification pattern is a barcode.
4. The electronic file management server according to claim 1, wherein said receiving unit receives the printing request, by
- 20 electronic mail, and said sending unit sends back an electronic mail, including information concerning the identification pattern.
5. The electronic file management server according to claim 1 that further comprises an electronic file generating unit, which generates said electronic file based on the printing request, and stores
- 25 the electronic file in a predetermined storing area.

6.The electronic file management server according to claim 1,
wherein the information concerning the storing place of said
electronic file, is information concerning URL.

7.The electronic file management server according to claim 1,
5 wherein said network, includes internet.

8.A printing apparatus that is connected to a document server,
via a network, comprising:

a reading unit, which reads identification pattern output by a
user terminal;

10 an electronic file obtaining unit, which obtains an electronic file
from said electronic file management server, via said network, based
on the read identification pattern; and

a printing unit, which prints the obtained electronic file.

9.The printing apparatus according to claim 8, wherein said
15 electronic file obtaining unit extracts information concerning the
printing condition of the electronic file, from said identification
pattern, and said printing unit performs printing, based on the
extracted information, concerning the printing condition.

10.The printing apparatus according to claim 8, wherein said
20 identification pattern is a barcode.

11.An electronic file printing method that performs printing of
an electronic file of a document, applying a user terminal, a printing
apparatus, and an electronic file management server, connected via a
network, comprising:

25 a receiving step, wherein the electronic file management server

receives a printing request of an electronic file, sent by said user terminal, via said network;

a sending back step, wherein said electronic file management server generates an identification pattern, including information
5 concerning a storing place of the electronic file, based on the received printing request of the electronic file, and sends back the identification pattern to said user terminal;

a displaying step, wherein said user terminal displays the received identification pattern;

10 an obtaining step, wherein said printing apparatus obtains the identification pattern from a reading apparatus that reads the identification pattern, displayed by said user terminal;

an obtaining step, wherein said printing apparatus obtains the electronic file, from said electronic file management server, via said
15 network, based on the obtained identification pattern; and

a printing step, wherein said printing apparatus performs printing of the obtained electronic file.

12.A computer readable recording medium, which stores a program for a computer to execute:

20 a receiving step, which receives a printing request of an electronic file, from a user terminal, via a network;

an identification pattern generating step, which generates an identification pattern, including information concerning a storing place of the electronic file, based on the received printing request of
25 the electronic file; and

a sending step, which sends back said identification pattern to said user terminal via said network.

13.The recording medium according to claim 12, wherein said identification pattern further includes information concerning the
5 printing condition of said electronic file, in said identification pattern.

14.The recording medium according to claim 12, wherein said identification pattern is a barcode.

15.The recording medium according to claim 12, wherein said receiving step receives said printing request by electronic mail, and
10 said sending step sends back an electronic mail, including information concerning said identification pattern.

16.The recording medium according to claim 12 that further comprises an electronic file management step, which generates said electronic file, and stores the file in a predetermined storing area,
15 based on said printing request received by said user terminal.

17.The recording medium according to claim 12, wherein information concerning the storing place of said electronic file, is information concerning URL.

18.A computer data signal embedded in a carrier wave, and
20 representing a program for controlling a computer to execute:

a receiving step, which receives a printing request of an electronic file, from a user terminal, via a network;

an identification pattern generating step, which generates an identification pattern, including information concerning a storing
25 place of the electronic file, based on the received printing request of

the electronic file; and

a sending step, which sends back said identification pattern to said user terminal via said network.